



Museum & Art Gallery
of the Northern Territory



Media Release

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Prestigious Art Award to Open in Darwin

A crowd of more than 1000 people is expected to gather at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) in Darwin tomorrow night for the *23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award*.

MAGNT Director Anna Malgorzewicz said the award ceremony would commence at 6.30pm with one of the highlights being the public's first chance to view this year's final selection of 82 artworks, including the four category winners and overall Telstra Award winner.

"While the *23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award* might be a competition, it is also a chance for many people to gather at the one venue and celebrate Indigenous art and culture," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"We have a great night of entertainment planned for the entire family scheduled to commence as the sun sets over Bullocky Point.

"Entertainment highlights include the *Djilpin Dancers and Tom E Lewis Band* and *Robbie Mills and The Collective* performing during the night."

Ms Malgorzewicz said free blankets would not be provided this year.

"As the *Telstra Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award* has become more popular, it has become harder to guarantee everyone gets a blanket," Ms Malgorzewicz said.

"We have decided to invest the money in boosting this year's entertainment to benefit everyone attending tomorrow night's opening ceremony, rather than running the risk of disappointing people should we run out of blankets."

Media Note – For more information contact Edwin Edlund on 0437 915 366



The *23rd Telstra National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award* is supported by the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian, State and Territory Governments.